



Regional Event Outlook - August 10-11, 2014

Western Thunderstorm & Lightning Outbreak

Upcoming Event:

- A low pressure system will form off the west coast on Saturday and settle to just off the northern CA coast by Sunday. The dynamics of this system along with residual moisture, daytime heating and a strengthening jet stream will result in perfect conditions for a significant and widespread thunderstorm outbreak event beginning Sunday and continuing through at least Monday, with nocturnal storms a good possibility. A significant number of dry lightning strikes are expected with these storms along with strong gusty outflow winds.
- Warm and very dry conditions currently exist and are forecast to continue throughout much of this region this weekend and into early next week.
- All of these ingredients add up to high potential for several large fire starts. Northwest CA and southwest OR look to be the focus of this event although the rest of northern CA and the rest of OR will likely see thunderstorms as well.
- The low pressure system weakens and begins to lift northeast across the Great Basin by Wednesday.

Potential Impacts:

- Numerous large fire starts with rapid fire spread associated with either lightning or strong winds and low humidity.
- Smoke from fires having an impact on visibilities and air quality over a large area and a great distance.
- Temporary closure of transportation routes due to active fires.
- Temporary closure of portions of National Parks during the height of the tourist season.
- Additional large fire incidents will tax already depleted federal/state/local resources as well as IMET resources.

Key Points:

- In total, 18 NWS IMETs and 3 trainees are serving on fires in the west.

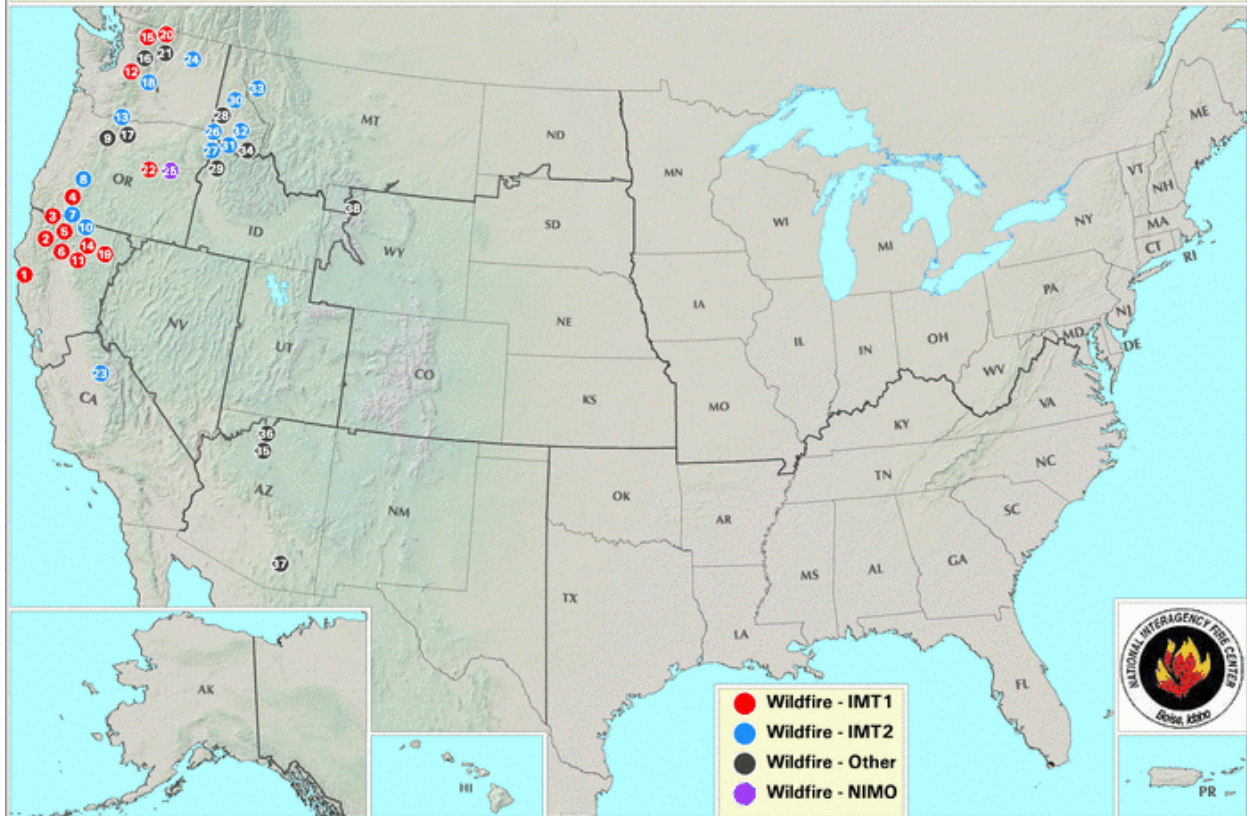
- Western WFOs continue to support non-IMET fires with spot forecasts regularly.
- Currently 12 large fire incidents exist in northern CA and southern OR with 37 ongoing fire incidents in WR - all requiring federal/state/local resources.
- The most critical time for lightning started fires is Sunday afternoon and evening (8/10) and again on Monday (8/11).
- This weather pattern historically has often resulted in widespread lightning strikes across parts of northern CA and southern OR.
- This weather pattern is very conducive to nocturnal thunderstorms Sunday night.
- The US Forest Service Predictive Services has identified a high potential for large fire starts in northern CA for Sunday and Monday and western OR for Monday and Tuesday.

NOAA/NWS Operations and Services:

- Thunderstorm/lightning/wind threat well advertised in Hazardous Weather Outlooks, Discussions, and Weather Stories as well as traditional NWS watches/warnings.
- Threats also well advertised in emails to partners.
- Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches have been or will be issued shortly for northern CA and much of western OR beginning midday Sunday and continuing through at least Monday.
- The majority of watches and warnings are/will be for expected thunderstorms and resulting dry lightning as well as gusty outflow winds on dry fuels.

Current Large Incidents

August 08, 2014



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|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 LODGE COMPLEX | 11 EILER | 21 CARLTON COMPLEX | 31 HIGH RANGE |
| 2 JULY COMPLEX | 12 CHIWAUKUM COMPLEX | 22 SOUTH FORK COMPLEX | 32 JOHNSON BAR |
| 3 LOG | 13 ROWENA | 23 FRENCH | 33 THOMPSON RIVER COMPLEX |
| 4 CAMP CREEK COMPLEX | 14 DAY | 24 DEVILS ELBOW COMPLEX | 34 RAIN |
| 5 LITTLE DEER | 15 LITTLE BRIDGE CREEK | 25 BALD SISTERS | 35 MCRAE |
| 6 COFFEE COMPLEX | 16 DUNCAN | 26 BIG COUGAR | 36 SITGREAVES COMPLEX |
| 7 BEAVER COMPLEX | 17 NENE CREEK | 27 5 MILE | 37 DEER HEAD |
| 8 STALEY COMPLEX | 18 SNAG CANYON | 28 GIFFORD | 38 SWEDE |
| 9 LOGGING UNIT | 19 BALD | 29 SOMERS | |
| 10 KNF BEAVER | 20 UPPER FALLS | 30 UPPER MICA COMPLEX | |

Increased Thunderstorm Potential Sun-Mon



Where?

Interior portions of
Northwest California

When?

Sunday and Monday mainly during
the Afternoon and Evening

What Should YOU Do?

1. When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!
2. Postpone Outdoor Activities
3. Seek Low Lying Areas If Caught Outside



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National Weather Service - Eureka, CA

